

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 5, 13, 17 and 25 have been amended. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

It is noted with appreciation that the Office Action has indicated that claims 5-8 and 17-20 would be allowable if rewritten to include all the limitations of the base claim and of any intervening claims. Claim 5 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of base claim 1 and of intervening claims 2 and 4. Claim 17 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of base claim 13 and of intervening claims 14 and 16. Accordingly, it is submitted that independent claims 5 and 17 and their respective dependent claims 6-8 and 18-20 are now allowable.

The Office Action has objected to the specification on the basis that there is no reference numeral 310 in Fig. 2 as described at page 10, lines 13 and 14. This passage has been amended to delete the reference to Fig. 2, thereby making the specification and the drawing consistent.

The Office Action has objected to the specification on the basis that the structure in Fig. 4 associated with reference numeral 310 does not appear to be a pinch wheel. This objection is erroneous. In Fig. 4, reference numeral 310 is associated with a pinch wheel structure that includes not only the pinch roller but other parts of the linkage thereof. Accordingly, it is submitted that the specification and drawing Fig. 4 are consistent.

For the above reason, it is submitted that the drawing and the specification, as amended, are consistent and, therefore, that the objection should be withdrawn.

The Office Action objects to claim 25 on the ground that "the contact region" at line 3 has no antecedent basis. Claim 25 has been amended to correct the antecedent by changing "the contact region" to ---a contact region---. Accordingly, it is submitted that the objection to claim 25 has been obviated by the amendment and, therefore, should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4, 9, 10, 13-16, 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Japanese Patent No. 62-185652 to Takahashi et al., hereafter Takahashi et al.

Independent claims 1 and 13 have been amended to recite that a main roller advances a media toward at least one overdrive roller. Takahashi et al. do not teach or disclose a main drive roller that advances a media toward an overdrive roller. Accordingly, it is submitted that the rejection of claims 1-4, 9, 10, 13-16, 21 and 22 is obviated by the amendment to independent claims 1 and 13 and, therefore, the rejection should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 12, 13, 24 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,840,369 to Takahashi, hereafter Takahashi.

Independent claims 1, 13 and 25 have been amended to recite that a main roller advances a media toward at least one overdrive roller. Takahashi does not teach or disclose a main drive roller that advances a media toward an overdrive roller. Accordingly, it is submitted that the rejection of claims 1, 12, 13, 24 and 25 is obviated by the amendment to independent claims 1, 13 and 25 and, therefore, the rejection should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 11 and 23 under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as unpatentable over Takahashi et al. as applied to claims 1-4, 9, 10, 13-16, 21 and 22 further in view of U.S Patent No. 4,734,987 to Cleveland, hereafter Cleveland.

Independent claims 1 and 13 have been amended to recite that a main roller advances a media toward at least one overdrive roller. Takahashi et al. do not teach or disclose a main drive roller that advances a media toward an overdrive roller. Cleveland was cited to show a roller with a surface that has a high coefficient of friction. Cleveland does not teach or disclose a drive roller that advances a media toward an overdrive roller. Since neither Takahashi et al. nor Cleveland teaches a main roller that advances a media toward at least one overdrive roller, the rejection is inapplicable to claims 11 and 23, which depend on independent claims 1 and 13, respectively.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the rejection of claims 11 and 23 is obviated by the amendment to independent claims 1 and 13 and, therefore, the rejection should be withdrawn.

It is further noted that Cleveland does not teach a roller that has a high coefficient of friction, but rather teaches an independent shaft 34 with a high coefficient of friction. Pinch wheels 32 pinch the medium 16 against the shaft 34. This is not a teaching to provide a negative pressure type roller with a coating having a high coefficient of friction.

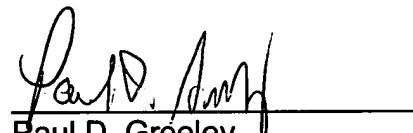
For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that the rejection of claims 11 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is obviated by the amendment and should be withdrawn.

The Office Action cites a number of patents that were not applied in the rejections of the claims. These patents have been reviewed, but are believed to be inapplicable to the claims.

It is respectfully requested for the reasons set forth above that the objection to the specification and to claim 25 be withdrawn, that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be withdrawn, that claims 1-25 be allowed and that this application be passed to issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Paul D. Greeley
Reg. No. 31,019
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Ohlandt, Greeley, Ruggiero & Perle, L.L.P.
One Landmark Square, 10th Floor
Stamford, CT 06901-2682
(203) 327-4500